



BRUCELLOSIS

Agent Overview:	The causative agents of Brucellosis are a group of bacteria in the genus <i>Brucella</i> .
Lab Specimen Submittal:	Authorization for laboratory specimen submittal must be given by Dr. Jane Getchell, DPHL director, Christina Pleasanton, DPHL deputy director, or Dr. Jack Liou, bioterrorism coordinator.
Specimens Necessary for testing:	<p>Environmental and non-clinical testing for culture: Powder, water, soil, air, plant, food and drink, paper, animal specimens include tissues (especially bone marrow, spleen, liver and abscesses), skin, bones or blood.</p> <p>Clinical specimens for culture and/or PCR: specimens for culture include blood, bone marrow, spleen, liver, abscesses. ONLY whole blood (in EDTA), purple top tube, may be submitted for PCR. If blood is submitted for PCR, a blood culture bottle must also be drawn to confirm the PCR result.</p> <p>Food specimen for culture and PCR: Collect at least 10 grams of food sample.</p> <p>Grown organism for culture and/or PCR from sentinel laboratory: referred organism on agar for rule-out testing or confirmation.</p>
Packaging Instructions:	<p>Environmental specimens must be double bagged and the outside of the bag decontaminated (10% bleach).</p> <p>Grown organisms, food or clinical specimens must be in unbreakable double containers and outside of container decontaminated (10% bleach).</p> <p>Receiving Specimens at DPHL - authorized specimens are accepted at the back of the building by the loading dock. Submitter must present ID and have proper forms completed.</p>
Handling of Specimens:	Chain of custody procedures must be followed for environmental samples or any samples, specimens and materials that could be used as evidence in a legal proceeding. Environmental samples are kept at room temperature and clinical specimens at refrigerator temperature (in a cooler, but not frozen) until delivered to the laboratory.
Reporting Results:	<p><u>Preliminary:</u> A preliminary positive or negative test result is issued upon completion of PCR. PCR may take 24 hrs. <u>However, all PCR results must be confirmed by culture.</u></p> <p><u>Negative:</u> Culture reports are issued 7 days after submission.</p> <p><u>Positive:</u> Culture positive reports may be issued as early as 5 days after submission.</p>
Contact Information:	Jane Getchell, DrPH, DPHL director, 302-223-1520 (24/7 coverage).